

In announcing his candidacy for the Presidency in 1992, he outlined a much broader conception of intergenerational responsibility, saying "Just as we reach back to our ancestors for our fundamental values, so we, as guardians of that legacy, must reach ahead to our children and their children \* \* \* That sense of sacredness, must begin with a reverence for this earth. This land, this water, this air, this planet—this is our legacy to our young."

Paul spent much of his career in public service making this vision of resource conservation a reality. He not only restored a run-down neighborhood park in our hometown of Lowell, Massachusetts, but he also established the first urban park in our city. He also led efforts to preserve the historic lands and water of Walden Woods and helped to create the Cape Cod Commission, which is dedicated to protecting our open space.

Paul's concern for the environment did not end in Massachusetts, however. He was a national leader in securing the enactment of the Alaska Lands Act of 1980, a law that essentially doubled the size of our National Park and Wildlife Refuge Systems.

Tsongas understood the value of investing in human resources, as well. He often articulated the need to foster scientific achievement and innovation, which he saw as critical to keeping our nation's economy strong.

Our nation needs a pool of scientists and engineers with the intellect of Einstein and the public spirit and vision of Paul Tsongas to surmount the environmental and energy challenges posed by the 21st century.

Towards that end, the Paul E. Tsongas Fellowship Act would allow aspiring physicists, chemists, mathematicians, and computer scientists to enhance their skills through graduate education so they may become the pioneers of tomorrow. Furthermore, I am convinced that the fellowships in Tsongas' name will elicit a strong sense of intergenerational responsibility among the recipients.

Mr. Speaker, Paul Tsongas serves as a great inspiration to individuals who will dedicate their lives to advancing technology and environmental protection. A wise investment in our country's future, the Paul E. Tsongas Fellowship Act honors the memory of one of the finest persons ever to serve this institution.

#### RECOGNIZING THE FIRST WEEK IN MAY AS NATIONAL ARSON AWARENESS WEEK

#### HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 1999

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Arson Awareness Week and to encourage all Americans to join in the crusade against arson. Each year hundreds of lives are lost and billions of dollars of property are damaged by arsonists. In 1997 alone, arsonists killed an estimated 500 Americans and inflicted direct property damage totaling more than two billion dollars. One of every four fires—some 500,000 that occur in the United States each year—result from arson. Arson is the second leading cause of death by fire in

the United States, topped only by smoking. Unfortunately, the pain and horror of most arson occurrences are felt in residential communities. Each year, more than 90 percent of all civilian deaths and suspicious structural fires typically occur in homes. Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, an especially sobering fact of arson-related incidents is that firefighters lost their lives fighting these intentionally-set fires.

There are steps each of us can take to prevent arson. First, owners of facant buildings should secure them to prevent vandals from setting fires for excitement. Second, parents of young children who exhibit a propensity to play with fire can call their local fire departments for a referral to a trained juvenile fire starter intervention program that will assist the child. Third, business and institutional property managers can call their local fire marshal for advice on how to arson-proof their buildings. This is especially important for church leaders who have in recent years seen their places of worship come under attack by arsonists.

In my home State of Delaware our State Fire Marshall's office provides the resources to investigate fires, as well as maintaining an excellent Juvenile Fire Setter Intervention Program that helps hundreds of Delaware families each year deal with this very troubling problem. In 1997, the last for which full data is available, those 20 years of age and under accounted for 50 percent of all arson fires in the United States. Of that total, 39.9 percent were committed by youths under the age of 15.

Mr. Speaker, it is with a great sense of urgency that I encourage all Americans to be aware and concerned with the burdensome cost that arson inflicts on our society. As Delaware's Congressman and a Member of the Congressional Fire Service Caucus, I strongly urge everyone to contact their local fire officials to learn more about what they can do to extinguish the arsonists' match.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE KEENE SENTINEL, NEW HAMPSHIRE'S OLDEST NEWSPAPER

#### HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 1999

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to The Keene Sentinel. 1999 marks the bicentennial of The Sentinel, the oldest newspaper in New Hampshire, and the fifth oldest paper in the nation to be published continuously under the same name.

Under the guiding hand of publisher John Prentiss, the first edition of the New Hampshire Sentinel was issued in Keene on March 23, 1799. After 89 years as a weekly paper, The Sentinel began daily publication in 1890, and became a seven-day publication with the launch of a Sunday edition in 1996.

With the exception of 30 years in the 1800s, The Sentinel has been owned and operated by only two families: John Prentiss and his descendants, and then the Ewing family, which acquired the newspaper in 1954. The paper has enjoyed local and independent ownership throughout its 200 years.

Mr. Speaker, The Keene Sentinel, based in Cheshire County, serves the many commu-

nities of the Monadnock Region in southwestern New Hampshire. During the last two centuries, The Sentinel has chronicled the cultural, economic and social history of the region.

When John Prentiss first began publishing the paper in 1799, he had just one assistant. As Keene and the towns in the surrounding area have grown, the newspaper has expanded to meet the needs of the community. Today, with a circulation of 15,000, The Sentinel employs more than 100 people.

The Keene Sentinel has become a force in the community, advocating for open government, land use planning, and environmentally sensitive economic development in the Monadnock Region.

Mr. Speaker, I celebrate the institutional history of The Sentinel as well as the service the paper has provided to the community during the past 200 years.

#### KENTUCKY NURSES WEEK

#### HON. ANNE M. NORTHUP

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 1999

Mrs. NORTHUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a group of Kentuckians who have truly been called to serve others. Each day, thousands of children and adults walk into countless clinics, hospitals and care facilities to receive care and nurses comfort to those who are most in need. This week, I am pleased to join Kentuckians across the Commonwealth to celebrate "Kentucky Nurses Week."

Beginning today and lasting until May 12th, we will celebrate and honor the work that nurses do for each one of us. I am certain that each member of this body has had an experience with a nurse they can remember. From the school nurses who helped us clean off that scraped knee to the trauma room nurse ready during times of enormous distress, we can all appreciate the work the nurses do for our communities. With the hard work and compassion of nurses, we are able to receive the quality health care we deserve and expect for ourselves and our loved ones.

So today and for the next week, we in Kentucky will take an extra moment to offer a kind word or a special thank you to our nurses. The days are long, the work not always glamorous, but each day we are profoundly effected by the work of nurses, and I for one say thank you.

#### INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO REFORM THE \$1500 REHAB CAP

#### HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 1999

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 made some long-overdue savings in Medicare and has resulted in extending the life of the Part A Trust Fund from about 2001 to 2015. As budget policy, it has been a success.